

title has been changed to be more clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

In the claims, the independent claims have been amended to better distinguish Applicant's invention from the cited art. In addition, Claims 1, 2 and 14 have been cancelled.

Initially, Claims 10 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Claim 10 has been amended taking into consideration the remarks set forth on page 2 of the Office Action. With respect to Claim 16, it is submitted that "authorization data" is introduced in this claim. Accordingly, it is submitted that all the claims are in full compliance with the particularity and distinctness requirements of the statute, and therefore reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-7, 12 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Webb '135. In addition, Claims 9-11 and 14-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being obvious over Webb in view of Doi '712. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Applicant's invention as set forth in Claim 3 relates to a remote control method for controlling a remotely controllable apparatus from an external device connected to the remotely controllable apparatus, wherein the apparatus has a control panel for specifying a process operation and a reader for reading an image of a document, and which is operated in accordance with an indication from the control panel and/or an externally supplied command. The method includes the steps of detecting that the document has been set to the reader, displaying, on the external device, a virtual control panel in response to the detection, and generating a command of the remotely controllable apparatus corresponding to an operation of

the virtual control panel. In addition, the generated command is supplied to the remotely controllable apparatus.

Claim 13 relates to a storage medium storing program code and corresponds generally to Claim 3.

Claim 4 relates to a remote control system comprised of a remotely controllable apparatus which has a control panel for specifying a processing operation and a reader for reading an image of a document, and which is operated in accordance with an indication from the control panel and/or an externally supplied command, an information processing apparatus capable of supplying a command to the remotely controllable apparatus, and a display unit and input device connected to the information processing apparatus. The information processing apparatus includes detecting means for detecting that the document has been set to the reader, display means for displaying a virtual control panel in response to the detection, and discriminating means for establishing correspondence between a command, which operation of the control panel causes to be applied to the remotely controllable apparatus, and an operation performed on the virtual control panel. Additionally, communication means supplies the remotely controllable apparatus with the command corresponding to the operation performed on the virtual control panel.

Claim 17 relates to an information processing apparatus in a data processing system which includes a data processing apparatus with a control panel for specifying a processing operation and a reader for reading an image of a document, and which is operated in accordance with an indication from the control panel and/or an externally supplied command, the information processing apparatus, which is capable of supplying a command to the processing apparatus, a display unit and input device connected to the information processing apparatus, and

an image input device connected to the information processing apparatus for reading the image of a document and supplying the information processing apparatus with an image signal representing the image read. The information processing apparatus comprises detecting means for detecting that a document has been set to the reader, display means for displaying, on the display unit, a virtual control panel in response to the detection, and discriminating means for establishing correspondence between a command, which operation of the control panel causes to be applied to the data processing apparatus, and an operation performed on the virtual control panel. Communication means supplies the data processing apparatus with the command corresponding to the operation performed on the virtual control panel.

Claims 20 and 23 recite a method of controlling an information processing apparatus in a data processing system and a storage medium storing program code of a method of controlling an information processing apparatus in a data processing system, respectively, and correspond generally to Claim 17. These claims therefore include the steps of detecting that a document has been set to the reader, and displaying a virtual control panel in response to the detection.

In accordance with Applicant's claimed invention, an apparatus can be remotely controlled in an easy and efficient manner.

The primary citation to Webb relates to a host computer in communication with one or more printers. As shown in Figure 1, the host computer 11 and the printer 16 are connected, with an operator panel 35 provided on the printer and a replica of the panel provided at the host 11 at dialog box 63.

In contrast to Applicant's claimed invention, however, Webb does not provide a reader for reading an image of a document, and thus does not teach or suggest, among other

features, detecting that the document has been set to the reader and displaying the virtual control panel in response to the detection.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 1-7, 12 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §102 is respectfully requested.

The secondary citation to Doi relates to an image forming system and was cited for its teaching of an image forming apparatus that can be remotely controllable. The image forming device in Doi can include an auto document feeder (ADF), in which case an original document detection sensor is provided to detect the presence or absence of an original document on a tray.

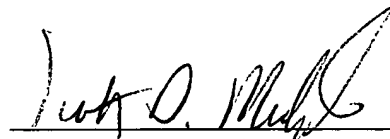
In contrast to Applicant's claimed invention, however, Doi also fails to teach or suggest, inter alia, detecting that a document has been set to a reader for reading an image of a document and displaying a virtual control panel in response to the detection. Therefore, the proposed combination of Webb and Doi, even if proper, still fails to teach or suggest Applicant's invention. Thus, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 9-11 and 14-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103 is respectfully requested.

Accordingly, it is submitted that Applicant's invention as set forth in independent Claims 3, 4, 13, 17, 20 and 23 is patentable over the cited art. In addition, dependent Claims 5-12, 15, 16, 18-21 and 22 set forth additional features of Applicant's invention. Independent consideration of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of this application is deemed to be in order and such action is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C.
office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our
below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Scott D. Malpede", is written over a horizontal line.

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO SPECIFICATION

The paragraph starting at page 6, line 24 and ending at page 7, line 6 has been amended as follows:

Specifically, according to one aspect of the present invention, there is provided a remotely controllable apparatus which has a control panel for specifying a processing operation and which is operated in accordance with an indication from the control panel and/or an externally supplied command, characterized in that the apparatus has storage means for storing control-panel data representing an external appearance of at least principal portions of the control panel.

The paragraph starting at page 10, line 8 and ending at line 15 has been amended as follows:

The present invention will now be described in detail with reference to the drawings. Though the following embodiment is described in regard to an example in which a copier (referred to as a "fax/copier" below) having a facsimile function is used as an apparatus to be controlled by the user, the present invention is applicable in other types of image processing apparatus as well.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO THE ABSTRACT

The Abstract of the Disclosure section starting at page 44, line 3 and ending at line 21 has been amended as follows:

[Disclosed is a remotely controllable apparatus and a remote control method in which there is little disparity between a case where the apparatus is controlled using a control panel possessed by the apparatus itself and a case where the apparatus is controlled remotely from a personal computer or the like, thereby facilitating control of the apparatus.] A remotely controllable apparatus [which] has a control panel for specifying a processing operation and [which] is operated in accordance with an indication from the control panel and/or an externally supplied command[, or an information processing apparatus that is capable of remotely controlling this apparatus, is provided with]. A storage device [for storing] stores control-panel data that represents the appearance of at least principal components of the control panel. Remote control is performed using a virtual control panel, the appearance of which resembles that of the actual control panel, created by utilizing the control-panel data.

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO CLAIMS

1. Cancelled.

2. Cancelled.

3. (Amended) A remote control method for controlling a remotely controllable apparatus from an external device connected to the remotely controllable apparatus, wherein the apparatus has a control panel for specifying a processing operation and a reader for reading an image of a document, and which is operated in accordance with an indication from the control panel and/or an externally supplied command, said method comprising the steps of:

detecting that the document has been set to the reader;

displaying, on the external device, a virtual control panel having an appearance identical with or similar to at least part of the control panel in response to the detection in the detecting step;

generating a command of [said] the remotely controllable apparatus corresponding to an operation of [said] the virtual control panel; and

supplying the generated command to [said] the remotely controllable apparatus.

4. (Amended) A remote control system comprising:

a remotely controllable apparatus which has a control panel for specifying a processing operation and a reader for reading an image of a document, and which is operated in accordance with an indication from [the] said control panel and/or an externally supplied command;

an information processing apparatus capable of supplying a command to said remotely controllable apparatus; and

a display unit and input device connected to said information processing apparatus;

wherein said information processing apparatus includes:

detecting means for detecting that the document has been set to said reader;

display means for displaying, on [the] said display unit, a virtual control panel having an appearance identical with or similar to at least part of the control panel in response to the detection by said detecting means;

discriminating means for establishing correspondence between a command, which operation of the control panel causes to be applied to said remotely controllable apparatus, and an operation performed on [the] said virtual control panel; and

communication means for supplying said remotely controllable apparatus with the command corresponding to the operation performed on said virtual control panel.

10. (Amended) The system according to claim 4, wherein said [informing] remotely controllable apparatus [has] comprises:

[document reading means for reading a document; and]

document sensing means for sensing whether or not a document is present in said [document reading means] reader;

wherein when said [document sensing means] reader senses that a document is present in said [document reading means] reader, said detecting means detects an output from said document sensing means and said display means displays, on said display unit, said virtual control panel having an appearance identical with or similar to at least part of [the] said control panel.

13. (Amended) A storage medium storing program code of a remote control method for controlling a remotely controllable apparatus from an external device connected to the remotely controllable apparatus, wherein the apparatus has a control panel for specifying a processing operation and a reader for reading an image of a document, and which is operated in accordance with an indication from the control panel and/or an externally supplied command, comprising:

program code for detecting that the document has been set to the
reader;

program code for displaying, on the external device, a virtual control panel having an appearance identical with or similar to at least part of the control panel in response to the detection of the document;

program code for generating a command of [said] the remotely controllable apparatus corresponding to an operation on [said] the virtual control panel; and
program code for supplying the generated command to said remotely controllable apparatus.

14. Cancelled.

15. (Amended) The system according to claim [14] 4, wherein said display means displays, on said display unit, said virtual control panel corresponding to prescribed data that has been entered.

16. (Amended) The system according to claim [14] 15, wherein said prescribed data is authorization data concerning each user who utilizes said [data processing] remote control system.

17. (Amended) An information processing apparatus in a data processing system which includes: a data processing apparatus which has a control panel for specifying a processing operation and a reader for reading an image of a document, and which is operated in

accordance with an indication from the control panel and/or an externally supplied command; the information processing apparatus, which is capable of supplying a command to [said] the data processing apparatus; a display unit and input device connected to [said] the information processing apparatus; and an image input device connected to [said] the information processing apparatus for reading the image of a document and supplying [said] the information processing apparatus with an image signal representing the image read; [said] the information processing apparatus comprising:

detecting means for detecting that a document has been set to the reader;

display means for displaying, on the display unit, a virtual control panel having an appearance identical with or similar to at least part of the control panel in response to the detection of said detecting means;

discriminating means for establishing correspondence between a command, which operation of the control panel causes to be applied to [said] the data processing apparatus, and an operation performed on the virtual control panel; and

communication means for supplying [said] the data processing apparatus with the command corresponding to the operation performed on [said] the virtual control panel.

18. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim [16] 17, wherein said display means displays, on [said] the display unit, [said] the virtual control panel corresponding to prescribed data that has been entered.

20. (Amended) A method of controlling an information processing apparatus in a data processing system which includes: a data processing apparatus which has a control panel for specifying a processing operation and a reader for reading an image of a document, and which is operated in accordance with an indication from the control panel and/or an externally supplied command; the information processing apparatus, which is capable of supplying a command to [said] the data processing apparatus; a display unit and input device connected to [said] the information processing apparatus; and an image input device connected to [said] the information processing apparatus for reading the image of a document and supplying [said] the information processing apparatus with an image signal representing the image read; said method comprising the steps of:

detecting that a document has been set to said reader;

[a displaying step of] displaying, on the display unit, a virtual control panel having an appearance identical with or similar to at least part of the control panel in response to the detection in the detecting step;

a discriminating step of establishing correspondence between a command, which operation of the control panel causes to be applied to [said] the data processing apparatus, and an operation performed on the virtual control panel; and

a communication step of supplying said data processing apparatus with the command corresponding to the operation performed on said virtual control panel.

23. (Amended) A storage medium storing program code of a method of controlling an information processing apparatus in a data processing system which includes: a data processing apparatus which has a control panel for specifying a processing operation and a reader for reading an image of a document, and which is operated in accordance with an indication from the control panel and/or an externally supplied command; the information processing apparatus, which is capable of supplying a command to [said] the data processing apparatus; a display unit and input device connected to [said] the information processing apparatus; and an image input device connected to [said] the information processing apparatus for reading the image of a document and supplying [said] the information processing apparatus with an image signal representing the image read; comprising:

program code for detecting that the document has been set to said reader;

program code for displaying, on the display unit, a virtual control panel having an appearance identical with or similar to at least part of the control panel in response to the detection of the document;

program code for establishing correspondence between a command, which operation of the control panel causes to be applied to said data processing apparatus, and an operation performed on the virtual control panel; and

program code for supplying said data processing apparatus with the
command corresponding to the operation performed on said virtual control panel.